

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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R 251650Z AUG 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2794  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMCONSUL OPORTO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6621

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PO  
SUBJECT: EANES MEETS WITH HEADS OF THE REGIONAL  
GOVERNMENTS

REF: LISBON 6566 (DTG 241404Z AUG 77)

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT EANES MET AUGUST 24 WITH MOTA AMARAL  
AND ORNELAS CAMACHO TO DISCUSS AZOREAN AND MADEIRAN REGIONAL  
AUTONOMY. EMBASSY HAS ALSO LEARNED THAT CDR ALMEIDA E COSTA  
OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL WILL SOON BE NAMED PRESIDENT OF  
THE ADVISORY COMMISSION FOR REGIONAL AUTONOMY AFFAIRS.  
END SUMMARY.

1. MINI-SUMMIT ON REGIONAL AUTONOMY: IN A 3-HOUR SESSION  
AUGUST 24, PRESIDENT EANES MET WITH THE HEADS OF THE  
REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS OF THE AZORES AND MADEIRA--MOTA AMARAL  
AND ORNELAS CAMACHO RESPECTIVELY--PLANNING MINISTER SOUSA  
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GOMES AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE FIRMINO MIGUEL. THE GROUP  
DISCUSSED THE NOMINATION OF AN ADVISORY COMMISSION PRESIDENT,  
AS WELL AS REPORTS ON REGIONAL RESOURCES, RAISING THE LEVEL  
OF BASIC SERVICES, AND PORT FACILITIES. ACCORDING TO MOTA  
AMARAL:  
-- THE MEETING WAS A ROUTINE DISCUSSION BUT CLEARLY INDICATES  
PRESIDENT EANES'S INTEREST IN FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE

AZORES AND MADEIRA CLOSELY;

-- THE AZOREAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS HAD "PREVIOUS ROUTINE DISCUSSIONS" WITH BOTH THE PS AND THE CDS. THE PS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT BILATERAL CONTACTS BETWEEN NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PS AND PSD LEADERS WILL BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER HAS NO SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE;

-- THE COMPOSITION OF THE REGIONAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS ARE NOT NECESSARILY LINKED, GIVEN THE DIFFERENT STRUCTURE AND PREFERENCES OF THE AZOREAN ELECTORATE;

-- THE QUESTION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN REGIONAL AND CENTRAL ORGANS OF GOVERNMENT WAS TOUCHED ON ONLY BRIEFLY DURING THE MEETING;

-- PORT CONSTRUCTION IS INDISPENSABLE TO AZOREAN DEVELOPMENT.

2. ADVISORY COMMISSION: THE ISSUE OF AN ADVISORY COMMISSION PRESIDENT WAS DISCUSSED DURING PRESIDENT EANES'S MEETING WITH AMARAL AND CAMACHO, BUT NO DETAILS WERE DIVULGED. AMARAL DID, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT WOULD PROBABLY BE A MILITARY MAN. THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT IS NOMINATED BY PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC. THE COMMISSION WOULD ALSO INCLUDE TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC AND ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH REGIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE ADVISORY COMMISSION IS EMPOWERED UNDER ARTICLE 236 OF THE CONSTITUTION TO CONSIDER: A) THE "LEGALITY OF ACTS OF THE REGIONAL ORGANS AT THE REQUEST OF THE MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC;" AND B) THE "CONFORMITY OF CONFIDENTIAL

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LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND OTHER ACTS OF THE ORGANS OF SUPREME AUTHORITY WITH THE RIGHTS OF THE REGIONS...AT THE REQUEST OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLIES."

3. ALMEIDA E COSTA GETS NODS AZOREAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT MONJARDINO HAS INFORMED US THAT CDR ALMEIDA E COSTA, FORMER MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND CURRENT MEMBER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY BOTH REGIONAL PRESIDENTS AS PRESIDENT EANES'S NOMINEE TO HEAD THE ADVISORY COMMISSION.

4. COMMENT: MOTA AMARAL'S COMMENT ON THE ROUTINE NATURE OF THE DISCUSSIONS NOTWITHSTANDING, THE AUGUST 24 MEETING INDICATES THAT THE PS AND THE PSD ARE COOPERATING ON THE REGIONAL AUTONOMY ISSUE AND THAT PRESIDENT EANES WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A ROLE IN BRINGING THE CENTRAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS TOGETHER.  
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## Message Attributes

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